

INTERVIEW LOG SHEET

APCC Oral History Program – State Library reference no. for Somerville Collection OH 714/7

An interview with John Wills by Bernard O’Neil on 29 September 2005 in regards to the history the Animal and Plant Control Commission.

Time	Subject	Proper names
	Tape 1, Side A	
0:30	Personal background – born December 1951, Tumby Bay; schooling – Brinkworth Area School; work – Elders GM, Birdwood High School, Gumeracha Council (Weeds Officer); love of outdoors, sport, gardening, family; ran a Murray Grey stud farm as a hobby	Tumby Bay; Brinkworth Area School; Elders GM; Birdwood High School; Gumeracha Council; Mid North; Lyndoch; Birdwood
6:15	Work as a Weeds Officer and additional duties; attitudes to native vegetation; record-keeping	Gumeracha Council
11:55	No-one working on pest animals	Mount Crawford Forest
12:45	Main weeds work; using own vehicle	Gumeracha
15:10	Responsible to Council; arrangements under <i>Weeds Act</i> , <i>Pest Plants Act</i> ; nature of Board areas; proclaiming weeds, or not	Councils – Gumeracha, Mt Pleasant; Pest Plant Boards – Talunga, Barossa Ranges; Salvation Jane
21:25	Improved record keeping – coloured cards and maps; land subdivision and hobby farmers	
25:50	Weeds work and no animal control work	
27:30	Dealing with a troublesome landholder on weeds	Mt Pleasant; Gumeracha Council; Craneford; Eden Valley; Elders; Barossa Council
	Tape 1, Side B	
0:10	‘Advertising’ role as Weeds Officer; troublesome landholder; ‘customer relations’ training	Brian Pike; Cape Tulip
5:15	Negotiating outcomes; non-compliant landholder’s attitude; court action	
12:55	Work amalgamated under <i>Animal and Plant Control Act</i> ; training course; computerisation and recordkeeping	Coorong; Animal and Plant Control Commission; Gemini Downs; Alan Arbon; Mid Hills Board; Mt Barker and Onkaparinga Council
16:35	First rabbit query, c. 1993	Leon Holmes; Springton; Murray Bridge; Palmer
18:45	Interaction with other Boards; Commission’s biennial conferences	Talunga Animal and Plant Control Board; Councils – Gumeracha, Mt Pleasant; Roseworthy
21:10	Council amalgamations and Animal and Plant Control Boards; job promotion; rate of change – computers, digital maps, global positioning system, recordkeeping, integrated NRM programs; water catchment boards and community groups; broad regional programs	Animal and Plant Control Boards – Mt Lofty Ranges, Stirling, East Torrens, Mid Hills, Talunga, Fleurieu, Barossa, Mid Murray; Councils – Mt Barker, Mt Pleasant, Barossa, Mid Murray, Adelaide Hills; Sixth Creek Catchment Group; South Para Biodiversity Project; Green Web group; Purple Peril and Woody Weeds Committee; Weed Warriors
27:05	Managing staff and expansion under NRM arrangements	Torrens and Patawalonga Water Catchment Board
29:45	Management style – sporting background; vision	
	Tape 2, Side A	
0:10	New Board structure; vested interests in animal and plant control work; reporting to Councils; attitudes of Councils	Animal and Plant Control Boards – Talunga, Mt Lofty; Councils – Gumeracha, Mt Pleasant, Mt Barker, Adelaide Hills
5:45	Reporting to Board at meetings; employees of the Board	
8:45	Perceptions of the Mount Lofty Board	

10:35	Visions for NRM and the Mount Lofty Board; earnings for the Board	
15:50	No change to the weeds and the work required	Salvation Jane
18:30	Established animal control programs	
19:40	Established bio-control programs; integrated weed control	
20:40	Monitor and control weeds; focus of the work and resources	Salvation Jane
23:25	Expectation vs reality	
25:15	Greater environmental consciousness	
28:15	Success stories provide credibility	Mt Torrens; Salvation Jane